

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1 and 11-13 to further clarify the features set forth therein and claims 2-5 and 9 for conformity therewith. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

I. Summary of the Office Action

The Examiner withdrew the previous grounds of rejection. The Examiner, however, found new grounds for rejecting the claims. Specifically, claims 1-7, 9, and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

II. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7, 9, and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,710,634 to Kuriyama et al. (hereinafter “Kuriyama”). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection at least in view of the following exemplary comments.

Of these rejected claims, only claims 1 and 11-13 are independent. These independent claims *inter alia* and in some variation recite: a first print head that is provided in correspondence with the first medium supply section and that performs recording on the recording medium supplied by the first medium supply section; and a second print head that is provided in correspondence with the second medium supply section and that performs recording on the recording medium supplied by the second medium supply section, the second print head being different from the first print head.

The Examiner alleges that Kuriyama's disclosure of printing on the ADF-fed paper discloses the first recording section and printing on the ASF-fed paper discloses the second recording section (*see* pages 3-4 of the Office Action). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Kuriyama discloses the printer section 30 that includes an ink jet recording head 40 which serves as a printhead. In Kuriyama, the recording head 40 is carried by a carriage 31 which is movable along a shaft 32 extending perpendicularly to the plane of the drawing sheet (Figs. 1 and 8-10; col. 9, lines 19 to 27 and col. 12, line 24 to col. 13, line 44). That is, Kuriyama clearly discloses having a single print head 40 for printing both ADF-fed paper and ASF-fed paper. The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest two print heads (the first print head and the second print head), where each print head is provided with its own medium supply section and each print head records on the medium from the corresponding medium supply section.

For at least these exemplary reasons, claims 1 and 11-13 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw these grounds of rejections of claims 1 and 11-13. Claims 2-7 and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuriyama in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0098984 to Botten et al. (hereinafter "Botten"). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection at least in view of the following exemplary comments.

Claim 8 depends on claim 1. Applicant has already demonstrated that Kuriyama does not meet all the requirements of independent claim 1. Botten does not compensate for the above-identified deficiencies of Kuriyama. Together, the combined teachings of these references would not have (and could not have) led the artisan of ordinary skill to have achieved the subject matter of claim 1. Since claim 8 is dependent upon claim 1, it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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